

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Seventh Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Seventh Worcester Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (418) of these admissions reside in the Seventh Worcester Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Seventh Worcester Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 72% were male and 28% were female.
- 59% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 91% were white non-Latino, 1% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, and 2% were other racial categories.
- 62% were never married, 17% were married, and 21% reported not to be married now.
- 23% had less than high school education, 53% completed high school, and 24% had more than high school education.
- 43% were employed.
- 5% were homeless.
- 19% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Seventh Worcester Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	54%	28%	11%	2%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Seventh Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	405	344	107	94	65	93	63
FY '96	406	340	118	101	65	87	58
FY '97	437	367	129	110	94	110	91
FY '98	533	435	174	113	78	167	136
FY '99	619	526	178	121	97	150	123
FY '00	524	444	157	127	88	184	160
FY '01	595	454	171	100	56	166	135
FY '02	464	352	102	82	53	155	119
FY '03	418	311	120	70	53	121	100